

Section 01555

TRAFFIC CONTROL AND REGULATION

PART 1   G E N E R A L

1.01      SECTION INCLUDES

- A.      Requirements for signs, signals, control devices, traffic barriers, flares, lights and traffic signals; construction parking control, designated haul routes, and bridging of trenches and excavations.
- B.      Qualifications and requirements for use of flagmen.

1.02      MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT

- A.      Unit Price Contracts.
  - 1.      Traffic control and regulation. Payment for traffic control and regulation is on a lump sum basis. Include preparation and submittal of traffic control plan if different than shown on Drawings, and provision of traffic control devices, equipment, and personnel necessary to protect the Work and public. Payment will be based on Contractor's Schedule of Values for traffic control and regulation.
  - 2.      Flagmen. Payment for flagmen is on a lump sum basis. Partial payments will be based on Contractor's Schedule of Values for flagmen.
  - 3.      New Portable Concrete Low Profile Traffic Barrier Provided. Payment is on a unit price basis for each linear foot of low profile traffic barrier provided, installed with hardware assemblies and connected together in accordance with the approved traffic control plan.
  - 4.      Portable Concrete Low Profile Traffic Barrier picked up from City of Houston Stockpile. Payment is on a unit price basis for each linear foot of low profile traffic barrier picked up from designated stockpile, moved onto the project, set at location and connected together.
  - 5.      Portable Concrete Low Profile Traffic Barrier Installed. Payment is on a unit price basis for each linear foot of low profile traffic barrier delivered to the project location, installed with hardware assemblies and connected together in accordance with the approved traffic control plan.

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6.     Portable Concrete Low Profile Traffic Barrier Moved and Reset.  
Payment is on a unit price basis for each linear foot of low profile traffic barrier disassembled, moved on the project, reset at the new locations and connected together. Include cost to repair roadway in the unit price.
  7.     Portable Concrete Low Profile Traffic Barrier Removed. Payment is on a unit price basis for each linear foot of low profile traffic barrier removed from the project, including hardware assemblies, and stockpiling at location listed in Section 01110 – Summary of Work. Include cost to repair roadway in the unit price.
  8.     Refer to Section 01270 - Measurement and Payment for unit price procedures.
- B.     Stipulated Price Contracts. Include payment for work under this section in the total Stipulated Price.

**1.03     REFERENCES**

- A.     Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (TMUTCD)
- B.     Article 4413 (29bb), commonly referred to as Private Investigators and Private Security Agencies Act, and Article 2.12, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.
- C.     Code of Ordinances, City of Houston, Texas.
  1.     Chapter 10 Buildings And Neighborhood Protection, Article X Cleanup After Demolition Or Removal Of Structures
  2.     Chapter 40 Streets and Sidewalks, Article XVII Pedestrian Way Impairments

**1.04     SUBMITTALS**

- A.     Conform to requirements of Section 01330 - Submittal Procedures.
- B.     Traffic control plan:
  1.     If using traffic control plan contained in the Contract without modification, submit a letter confirming use of the plan.
  2.     If using a different traffic control plan, submit the plan for approval. The plan must conform to TMUTCD requirements and be sealed by a Registered Texas Professional Engineer.

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- C. Submit copies of approved lane closure permits issued by City Traffic Engineering Branch.
- D. Submit Schedules of Values for traffic control plan and flagmen within 30 days following Notice to Proceed.
- E. Submit records verifying qualifications of Uniformed Peace Officers and Certified Flagmen proposed for use on the Work.
- F. When working in the central business district, submit copies of approved Pedestrian Way permits issued by the City's Traffic Engineering Branch.

1.05      **FLAGMEN**

- A. Use Uniformed Peace Officers and Certified Flagmen to control movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic when construction operations encroach on public traffic lanes.
- B. Uniformed Peace Officer: Individual employed full-time as a peace officer who receives separate compensation as a privately employed flagman. Private employment may be an employee-employer relationship or on an individual basis. Flagman may not be in the employ of another peace officer nor be a reserve peace officer.
  - 1. Uniformed Peace Officers may be:
    - a. sheriffs and their deputies;
    - b. constables and deputy constables;
    - c. marshals or police officers of an incorporated city, town or village; or
    - d. as otherwise provided by Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure.
  - 2. The Uniformed Peace Officer must be a full-time peace officer, must work a minimum average of 32 paid hours per week, and must be paid a rate not less than the prevailing minimum hourly wage rate set by the federal Wage and Hour Act. The individual must be entitled to vacation, holidays, and insurance and retirement benefits.
- C. Certified Flagman: Individual who receives compensation as a flagman and meets the following qualifications:
  - 1. Formally trained and certified in traffic control procedures by the City's E. B. Cape Center.
  - 2. Speaks English. Ability to speak Spanish is desirable but not required.

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- 3.     Paid for flagman duty at an hourly rate not less than the wage rate set for Rough Carpenter under the City's Wage Scale for Engineering Construction.
  
- D.     Certified Flagmen must wear a distinctive uniform, bright-colored vest, and be equipped with appropriate flagging and communication devices while at the Work site. They must also have in their possession while on duty, a proof of training identification card issued by the appropriate training institute.

**PART 2   P R O D U C T S**

**2.01       SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND DEVICES**

- A.     Comply with TMUTCD requirements.
  
- B.     Traffic cones and drums, flares and lights: Conform to local jurisdictions' requirements.
  
- C.     When working in the Central business district, provide pedestrian pathway signage approved by the City's Traffic Engineering Branch.

**2.02       PORTABLE LOW PROFILE CONCRETE BARRIERS**

- A.     The low profile concrete barrier is a patented design. Information concerning this barrier may be obtained from Texas Transportation Institute, Texas A&M University System, College Station, Texas 77843-3135, (409) 845-1712.

**PART 3   E X E C U T I O N**

**3.01       PUBLIC ROADS**

- A.     Submit requests forms for lane closure and sidewalk closure to the City's Traffic Engineering Branch at least three working days prior to need for blocking vehicular lanes or sidewalks. Do not block lanes or sidewalks without approved permits. Obtain application from the City's Traffic Engineering Branch at 611 Walker, 5<sup>th</sup> floor or at the following internet address: <http://www.ci.houston.tx.us/pwe/mrow/laneclosure.htm>.
  
- B.     Follow laws and regulations of governing jurisdictions when using public roads. Pay for and obtain permits from jurisdiction before impeding traffic or closing lanes. Coordinate activities with Project Manager.

- C. Give Project Manager one-week notice before implementing approved traffic control phases. Inform local businesses of impending traffic control activities.
  - D. Notify police department, fire department, METRO, and local schools, churches, and businesses in writing a minimum of five business days prior to beginning work.
  - E. Maintain 10-foot-wide all-weather lanes adjacent to the Work for emergency vehicle use. Keep all-weather lanes free of construction equipment and debris.
  - F. Do not obstruct normal flow of traffic from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on designated major arterials or as directed by Project Manager.
  - G. Maintain local driveway access to residential and commercial properties adjacent to work areas at all times. Use all-weather materials approved by Project Manager to maintain temporary driveway access to commercial and residential driveways.
  - H. Keep streets entering and leaving job site free of excavated material, debris, and foreign material resulting from construction operations in compliance with applicable ordinances.
  - I. Remove existing signage and striping that conflict with construction activities or that may cause driver confusion.
  - J. Provide safe access for pedestrians along major cross streets.
  - K. Alternate closures of cross streets so that two adjacent cross streets are not closed simultaneously.
  - L. Do not close more than two consecutive esplanade openings at a time without prior approval from Project Manager.
- 3.02 CONSTRUCTION PARKING CONTROL
- A. Control vehicular parking to prevent interference with public traffic and parking, access by emergency vehicles, and the City's operations.
  - B. Monitor parking of construction personnel's vehicles in existing facilities. Maintain vehicular access to and through parking areas.
  - C. Prevent parking on or adjacent to access roads or in non-designated areas.

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- A.    Provide flares and lights during hours of low visibility to delineate traffic lanes and to guide traffic.

**3.04      HAUL ROUTES**

- A.    Utilize haul routes designated by authorities or shown on Drawings for construction traffic.
- B.    Confine construction traffic to designated haul routes.
- C.    Provide traffic control at critical areas of haul routes to regulate traffic and minimize interference with public traffic.

**3.05      TRAFFIC SIGNS AND SIGNALS**

- A.    Construct necessary traffic control devices for temporary signals required to complete the Work including loop detectors, traffic signal conduits, traffic signal wiring and crosswalk signals.    Notify the City's Traffic Engineering Branch a minimum of 60 days in advance of need for control boxes and switchgear.    The City will perform necessary service, programming or adjustments, to signal boxes and switchgear if required during construction.
- B.    Install and operate traffic control signals to direct and maintain orderly traffic flow in areas under Contractor's control affected by Contractor's operations.    Post notices, signs and traffic controls before moving into next phase of traffic control.
- C.    Relocate traffic signs and signals as the Work progresses to maintain effective traffic control.
- D.    Unless otherwise approved by Project Manager, provide driveway signs with name of business that can be accessed from each crossover.    Use two signs for each crossover.
- E.    Replace existing traffic control devices in Project area.
- F.    Project Manager may direct Contractor to make minor adjustments to traffic control signage to eliminate driver confusion and maintain orderly traffic flow during construction at no additional cost to the City.

**3.06      BRIDGING TRENCHES AND EXCAVATIONS**

- A.    When necessary, construct bridges over trenches and excavation to permit an unobstructed flow of traffic across construction areas and major drives.

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Use steel plates of sufficient thickness to support H-20 loading and install to operate with minimum noise.

- B. Shore trench or excavation to support bridge and traffic.
- C. Secure bridging against displacement with adjustable cleats, angles, bolts or other devices when:
  - 1. bridging is placed over existing bus routes,
  - 2. more than five percent of daily traffic is comprised of commercial or truck traffic,
  - 3. more than two separate plates are used for bridging, and
  - 4. when bridge is to be used for more than five consecutive days.
- D. Extend steel plates used for bridging a minimum of 1 foot beyond edges of trench or excavation. Use temporary paving materials such as premix to feather edges of plates to minimize wheel impact on secured bridging.

**3.07      REMOVAL**

- A. Remove equipment and devices when no longer required.
- B. Repair damage caused by installation.
- C. Remove post settings to a depth of 2 feet.

**3.08      TRAFFIC CONTROL, REGULATION AND DIRECTION**

- A. Use Flagmen to control, regulate and direct an even flow and movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic, for periods of time as may be required to provide for public safety and convenience, where:
  - 1. multi-lane vehicular traffic must be diverted into single lane vehicular traffic,
  - 2. vehicular traffic must change lanes abruptly,
  - 3. construction equipment must enter or cross vehicular traffic lanes and walks,
  - 4. construction equipment may intermittently encroach on vehicular traffic lanes and unprotected walks and crosswalks,

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- 5. traffic regulation is needed due to rerouting of vehicular traffic around the Work site, and
- 6. where construction activities might affect public safety and convenience.

- B. Use of Flagmen to assist in the regulation of traffic flow and movement does not relieve Contractor of responsibility to take other means necessary to protect the Work and public.

**3.09      INSTALLATION STANDARDS**

- A. Place temporary pavement for single lane closures, in accordance with TMUTCD.
- B. Reinstall temporary and permanent pavement markings as approved by Project Manager. When weather conditions do not allow application according to manufacturer's requirements, alternate markings may be considered. Submit proposed alternate to Project Manager for approval prior to installation. No additional payment will be made for use of alternate markings.

**3.10      MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT AND MATERIAL**

- A. Submit name, address and telephone number of individual designated to be responsible for maintenance of traffic handling at construction site to Project Manager. Individual must be accessible at all times to immediately correct deficiencies in equipment and materials used to handle traffic including missing, damaged, or obscured signs, drums, barricades, or pavement markings.
- B. Inspect signs, barricades, drums, lamps and temporary pavement markings daily to verify that they are visible, in good working order, and conform with traffic handling plans as approved by Project Manager. Immediately repair, clean, relocate, realign, or replace equipment or materials that are not in compliance.
- C. Keep equipment and materials, signs and pavement markings, clean and free of dust, dirt, grime, oil, mud, or debris.
- D. Obtain approval of Project Manager to reuse damaged or vandalized signs, drums, and barricades.

END OF SECTION